The University of Alberta

THE GATEWAY

Volume XC Number 32 | Tuesday, 6 February, 2001 | http://gateway.su.ualberta.ca/

Private Calgary tech school now allowed to grant degrees

Christie Tucker
NEWS EDITOR

A for-profit university in Alberta has just been granted the right to offer baccalaureate degrees for several of its programs, a move that New Democrat MLA Raj Pannu says is part of the government's plan to promote private post-secondary education.

Pannu, a former U of A professor, says that the new order, passed on 31 January, will create a two-tiered system for post-secondary education where students can pay more for small classes.

"It's clear to me and Albertans that we have been exceedingly well served with the system we have, which is the most cost-effective and accessible system. For-profit systems don't work and are not appropriate for Alberta," he said.

Randy Kilburn, a representative of the Ministry of Learning, said that the benefit of allowing for-profit universities to operate in the province is one of expanded choice for students.

"Post-secondary enrollments continue to increase in Alberta. The message we are sending is that Albertans now have another option to pursue their studies along with our outstanding public institutions," he said.

Pannu accused the government of stealth in passing the new legislation, which would allow the US-based DeVry Institute of Technology the ability to grant bachelor degrees in Technology in Computer Information Systems, Technology in Electronics Engineering Technology, and Business Operations.

He says that Learning Minister Lyle Oberg has some explaining to do about the quick passing of the order, which he claims was "rubber-stamped" in Cabinet without legislative debate.

Kilburn said that an independent body, the Private Colleges Accreditation Board (PCAB), the members of which were chosen by the Minister to evaluate the problem, gave the recommendation for the change.

PLEASE SEE "DEVRY" ON PAGE 2



Marcus Bence / THE GATEWAY

Neil Fallon, lead singer of heavy groove-rock band Clutch, greeted all the Vulcans in the crowd at Red's on Saturday.

Off-campus fee vote loses at second try

Jon Dunbar
NEWS EDITOR

It looked, for a time, like the referendum on off-campus student fees might have shown up on SU election ballots after all.

But the failure of petitioners to gather 2500 valid signatures means they will once again have to ask Students' Council for approval.

The proposed referendum was asking for an $11.69 per term reduction in off-campus students' SU fees. After its defeat in Students' Council last Tuesday, it was was given a second chance by a group of students collecting signatures.

They had a day and a half to collect the 2500 signatures required to force a referendum vote. Engineering councillor Joe Brindle, who helped with the collection, said they counted 2596 signatures before handing them in.

But after being audited for duplicate ID numbers and non-students, that number fell to just under 2350.

Students' Council still holds the ability to grant the referendum. If councillors elect not to do so, then the petitioners may be able to submit the extra 150 signatures needed to make 2500.

PLEASE SEE "REFERENDUM" ON PAGE 2

Today

7 The *Gateway* explores virginity.

Quote for the day:

Facts do not cease to exist because they are ignored.

— Aldous Huxley

This day in the *Gateway*'s history:

The *Gateway* learned through unknown sources that the Faculty of Dentistry was slated for closure. Both administrators and faculty denied the rumours.

1993

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Correction:

We wrongly reported on 1 February that the definition of off-campus students includes practicum programs for Education students, clinical service for Med students, or placement for Rehab Med students.

Please recycle this newspaper

Sikh students collect earthquake relief

Colleen Underwood
NEWS STAFF

East Indian groups have rallied together on campus to mobilize relief funds for victims of India's 26 January earthquake.

"We have raised $1200 in four days and this week we hope to reach our goal of $5000," said Jasdeep Panesar, Director of the U of A Sikh Student Society.

Panesar discussed the Sikh Society's aims of uniting local Indian groups and providing relief for victims of the quake, which caused major damage in the Indian state of Gujarat. The Indian Student Association and Ismaili Student Association have joined forces with the Sikh Society.

"We don't have allegiance to any one group, but just want to provide help to all people affected," explained Panesar. "That is the duty of a Sikh—to stand out in a crowd so people know that they can always come to us for help."

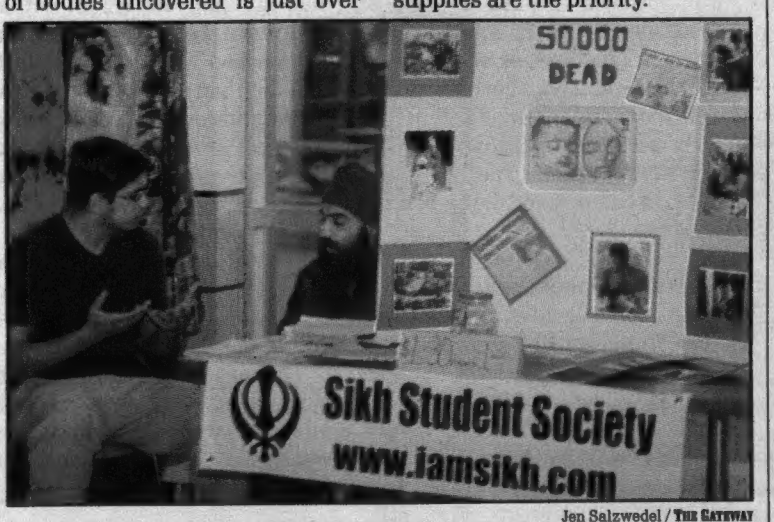
An updated figure for the number of bodies uncovered is just over 16 000, but up to 50 000 in total are thought to have been killed. The Indian government believes that approximately 35 million people have been affected, either directly or indirectly, and 73 000 homes in 1000 villages were destroyed.

Booths will be set up this week in HUB, CAB and SUB where donations will be accepted.

According to Kirstie Smolyk, community relations co-ordinator for the Canadian Red Cross, the amount raised north of Red Deer is over $19 000.

The earthquake aid will remain on relief for the next three months. According to the International Red Cross, relief is costing over $1 000 000 per day. Canada had raised $870 000 as of 2 February.

The Red Cross only accepts cash donations in these situations, explained Smolyk, in order to facilitate relief efficiently. The money is then used to purchase emergency supplies such as blankets, tents, medical supplies and clean water. Currently, sanitation and shelter supplies are the priority.



Jen Salzwedel / THE GATEWAY

Members of the Sikh Student Society collect funds for earthquake victims.

Robot vehicle gives students high hopes for triumph

James Elford
NEWS STAFF

U of A students are turning science fiction into science with the Autonomous Robot Vehicle Project (ARVP).

After months of planning and work, the U of A students involved in the ARVP are again looking forward to participating in the International Ground Robotics Competition in Detroit this summer.

"We're very excited," explained representative Carolyn Huston, "although it would be nice if it was in Florida like last year."

The U of A team has achieved a number of distinctions during its five-year involvement.

Besides being the only Canadian university to participate, the team was the first to introduce a 100-per cent digital imaging system, and the first to use a hydrostatic drive system.

The innovations resulted in the team placing second in the vehicle design competition in both 1999 and 2000.

The U of A team's robot has previously been gas-powered, but this year the team changed to an electrical motor.

In fact, the robot has gone through a massive overhaul, including a change to the frame. The team has redesigned the basic structure, the electrical system and even the software that is used by the machine.

The competition, which has been around since 1992, has up to 23 teams from the US and Japan and Canada competing in four areas.

PLEASE SEE "ARVP" ON PAGE 2

THE GATEWAY

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U of A student throws his hat in the mayoral ring

Colleen Underwood
NEWS STAFF

Entering into Edmonton's forthcoming mayoral race is Joe Devaney, a 21-year old U of A Business student who, though admittedly young, says he has already succeeded at several personal challenges.

To date, he has run in a marathon, and is training for his next; has traveled extensively throughout Europe, Australia, Japan, Malaysia, Canada, the US and Mexico, tackled three different languages, was Student President at Louis St Laurent High School, and most recently was named Campus Rec's Participant of the Week. He attended university in Ontario and Edmonton, and currently works part-time as a Public Relations Manager for Video Tax News.

He acknowledges that he is in the early stages of building his platform, however he has generated two thematic key points: "creative and possible."

It was only two months ago that Devaney committed to campaigning for the 15 October, 2001 election, but he gives credit to a local government Political Science course, taken in 1999, as the origins of his decision.



Jessie Meikle / THE GATEWAY
U of A student Joe Devaney hopes to make his way to the mayor's seat.

"After attending City Hall meetings [as part of the course requirement] I became disenchanted with the lack of enthusiasm," noted Devaney. "It seemed like some of the people didn't even want to be there, and that was when I knew that I could make a difference."

Devaney feels strongly about increasing regional relations and would encourage more meetings between these levels of government. As well, he believes issues like amalgamation, transportation and the Whyte Avenue bar culture controversies are important.

"I put myself center, maybe a bit right of center, and obviously I am pro-business and initiatives. I would like to promote Whyte Avenue's uniqueness, especially the arts and entertainment."

Devaney also emphasized economic issues. he said he wants to let people know what Edmontonians can do to become involved in city politics. He notes that although the economy is doing well right now, he feels that we could make it even better.

His campaign team is composed of two main organizers along with several students and members of the community who share his interests. Devaney said he has anonymous support from several experienced consultants with connections to various political parties, including the Alliance, NDP and Social Credit.

"I am always looking for more supporters to become involved and bring forth ideas or concerns to my campaign," he said.

Devaney's first fundraiser will be held at Cowboy's on 2 March. Healso intends to set up polling campaigns in SUB to get a feel for what students want from their municipal government.

"Call me an optimistic realist or a proactive realist," joked Devaney.

Referendum put back on track, then derailed again

"REFERENDUM" CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

However, if the petitioners opt to top up their signatures, the referendum would be held separately of the SU general election. That would pose an extra cost to the SU estimated at $14 000.

The referendum was originally brought forward by Engineering councillor Tim Poon, who gave a presentation to Council last Tuesday. After lengthy discussion and several amendments, Poon withdrew the proposal.

SU executive members claimed that Poon's original proposal—to waive SU membership fees for off-campus students—would cost the organization $116 000 each year.

That figure was halved when Business councillor Dean Jorgensen suggested a half-rate fee of $11.69 per term. That alteration was maintained in the petition, but petitioners estimate that the proposed changes would cost the SU closer to $40 000 annually.

Dedicated fees, which amount to another $27.60 per term, would be unaffected by the proposal.

"We thought that [the SU exec] were a little unfair in claiming that the Students' Union can't take a $40 000 cut," said Brindle. "We thought they were exaggerating their numbers. We felt that whether there's a cost to the Students' Union or not, these students are being treated unfairly."

Still, Brindle reported that when they handed in the petition sheets, VP (Operations & Finance) Greg Harlow, who vocally opposed the referendum in Council, shook their hands.

One of the main contentions of the motion's opponents has been that students voted on the issue just two years ago.

But Poon says that the Students' Union referendum on fees in 1999 was based on a simplification of SU fees, reducing 18 categories of students to just three: full-time, part-time, and summer.

"It really isn't about the dollar figures," said Brindle. "Most of the students can afford $23. It's whether it's a legitimate charge that seems to be an issue."

CAMPUS CRIME BEAT

Getting an education

At 10:15am on 31 January, two suspicious males were spotted in the greenhouses of the Earth Sciences Building. Staff questioned them, and they left the building, heading towards Cameron Library. Officers caught up to them and identified them as non-students. Both had criminal records and one was recently released from prison. They said they were interested in hydroponics because they were "going into the business." Both were trespassed from campus.

A-Team?

At 6:07am on 2 February, a routine patrol found a group of males running drills on the top level of Windsor Car Park. There was a paramilitary sort of organization to the exercises, but the group refused to say anything except that they were once in the military and were not students. They were told to leave campus and did so without incident.

Blowing smoke in residence

At 3:30am on 2 Feburary, a glass door in Kelsey Hall was smashed out, causing upwards of $500 in damage. Just after 4:00am that night in Henday Hall, a fire extinguisher was discharged and set off a smoke detector. The Fire Department arrived and had to use exhaust fans to clear the halls. They couldn't reset the fire alarm system, so an electrician was called.

Highway to heaven

At 12:30am on 3 February, Safewalk members reported a group of intoxicated people climbing a crane on a construction site near the Engineering buildings on the West side of campus. When Campus Security arrived, the group fled.

Whoa there, cowboy!

Just before 2:00am on 4 February, officers stopped a vehicle that was stunting on 112 Street and 89 Avenue. Later, two pedestrians approached and told constables that they had almost been run over by the stunting car. The occupants were not students and Edmonton Police was called to investigate possible dangerous driving charges.

Playing ... at breaking the law

Just before 3:00am on 4 February, a group of noisy, intoxicated males were seen play-fighting in front of Lister Hall. When officers approached, two were uncooperative and verbally abusive. They were not students and were arrested for public intoxication.

Compiled by Barrie Tanner

Flasher eludes Campus Security

Colleen Underwood
NEWS STAFF

On 26 January, 2001 at approximately 12:30pm, a female student reported a male student exposing himself to her inside Rutherford Library North.

According to the female student's report, the male first made eye contact with her, then went behind a bookshelf and moved several books out of the way in order to ensure that she had an unobstructed view of him.

"Apparently the girl saw the zipper of his pants, and his hands which were covering his penis," said Sergeant Darcy Pennock, who works on Community and Crime Prevention Services for Campus Security.

Upon the arrival of another student at the scene, the woman fled and reported the incident to Campus Security. Security responded and searched the library after receiving the call, but was unable to locate the offender.

The male is described as Caucasian, approximately 30 years old, 5'8", 150 to 160 lbs, cleanshaven, with a tanned complexion and short dirty blond hair. At the time, he was wearing a green cotton sweater with light-coloured jeans and running shoes.

Pennock reiterated the importance of being aware of indecent exposure and other sex offences—especially for females in quiet, remote areas. He reminded students to report such individuals immediately to Campus Security. He said that often students look for a secluded, quiet place to study, however this is exactly where offenders will often strike.

"People who engage in these kinds of activities are generally not students," said eleven-year Campus Security veteran Sergeant Darcy Pennock, who has seen these kinds of cases about once a year.

"We take these reports seriously," said Pennock. "From past experience, we have found that these sorts of offenders already have a criminal record. Sex offenders start out with typically this kind of behavior, at first acting alone, and then move on to public areas. It often proceeds to offenders touching the victim."

Producers, student clash over *Degrassi* website

Solanna Anderson
THE VARSITY

TORONTO (CUP) — A University of Waterloo graduate student is in a dispute over an Internet domain name with the owners of the *Degrassi* saga, Canada's popular award-winning teen drama.

University of Waterloo student Mark Polger said he fears he might lose the right to the address for his fan-club website. Epitome Pictures, the producers of the *Degrassi* TV series, is looking to take it over.

Polger created the unofficial *Degrassi* website in 1998 with the domain name www.degrassi.ca. It contains information about the Degrassi television series that ran from 1979 to 1992.

Since February 2000, Epitome Pictures has contacted Polger repeatedly, requesting the domain name.

According to Polger, they want the rights to the Internet real estate in part so that they can use it to launch their new series, called *Degrassi, the Next Generation.*

In mid-January, *Degrassi* producers issued Polger a 16-page statement of claim.

But, Polger refuses to give up the name, arguing that it is associated with his website.

"I am not damaging the *Degrassi* name," said Polger, who also owns the domains www.degrassi.org and www.degrassiweb.ca. "I am offering free promotion, publicity, and advertising. Instead of harassing me on this domain name dispute, they should be thanking me and they should leave me alone."

He has created a *Degrassi* mailing list with over 2000 subscribers from Canada, the US, UK, France, Israel, and Australia. In 1999, he organized a *Degrassi* convention at Centennial College near Toronto, where the show was filmed.

Polger claims that without his hard work on his website, the mailing list, and the convention, Epitome Pictures wouldn't have a market to work with.

Still, without Epitome's original investment in creating the television show, Polger would not have a website, according to Linda Schuyler, president of Epitome Pictures. She maintains, "we own our trademark."

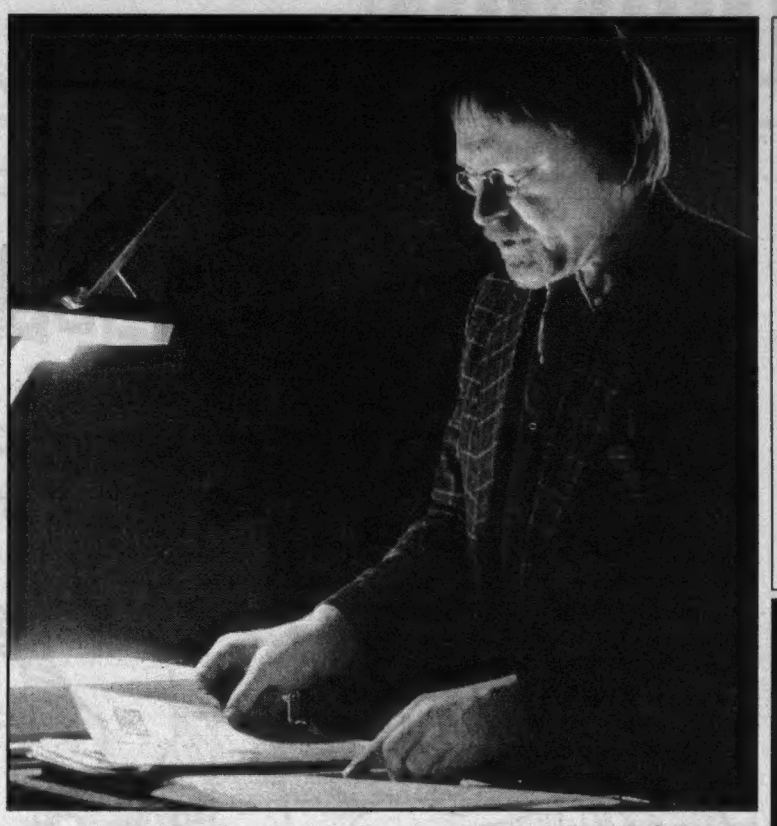
Although negotiations are ongoing, neither side has stepped into a courtroom.

While Schuyler called Polger's claims "full of inaccuracies," she said she is not interested in a lawsuit, but rather an "amicable solution." She describes Epitome's interactions with Polger as nothing more than "friendly chats."

However, what Epitome's ownership of the *Degrassi* trademark means in legal terms on the Internet is not entirely clear.

The law does not necessarily fall in the company's favour. While the name *Degrassi* may be trademarked by Epitome, Polger is only infringing on the trademark if he uses the name as a trademark.

In the past five days fans of the show have posted over 100 messages on Polger's website in support of his ownership of the site.



Patrick Finlay / THE GATEWAY

Dr Ruhr E Träbert of Bochum University in Germany, spoke on the benefits with using EBIT (electron-beam ion traps) in physical experimentation at Friday's physics colloquium.

Pannu says DeVry owes more to stockholders than students

"PANNU" CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"DeVry has gone through a rigorous process of evaluation by two independent teams. The PCAB's recommendation was to grant degree status to those programs, and the Minister agreed," he explained.

"The Minister says the Board made the decision," said Pannu. "But he is an elected official. Has the government decided that the Legislature is redundant?"

Pannu is calling on the government to rescind the decision until it is given a proper public forum for debate. "I hope that students, faculty and all Albertans will stand up together and say, 'We want public debate on this important issue,'" he said.

DeVry has Canadian campuses in Calgary, Toronto, and Mississauga. It is a for-profit institution whose shares are traded on the New York Stock Exchange, which Pannu says, means it serves the interest of its stockholders, not students.

Tuition rates at DeVry rank higher than other Alberta institutions, at an average of $1025 a course, or $3865 for the first term, $3790 for subsequent terms, and $4125 in the final term for accredited programs.

ARVP will lead to repeat victory, hopes local team

"ARVP" CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The Autonomous Challenge Competition, the Navigation Challenge Competition, and Follow-the-Leader Competition all involve the robots navigating on their own in various capacities.

The Vehicle Design Competition, in which the U of A team has historically done well, examines the process in which the robots were designed. The point is to make a robot that can operate autonomous of human direction, with the idea working towards autonomous vehicle systems.

There is also an unofficial tug-of-war event, of which the U of A team has reigned as champion since 1998.

The competition has a number of high-profile sponsors, including the Society of Automotive Engineers, Ford Motors, the US Department of Transportation, Oakland University, and Fanuc Robotics.

The team welcomes students from all faculties to work on the robot, from engineers and computer scientists for the machine itself, to Business and Arts students for roles in language, graphic arts, and public relations.

Students solicit and interact with industrial sponsors who provide component hardware and advice, and in that way get an inside view of industrial design and opportunities for employment.

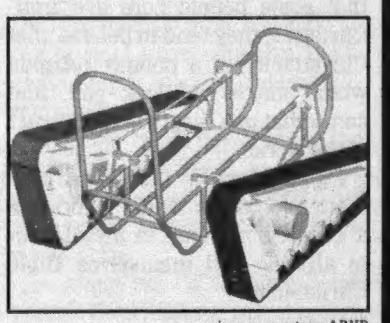


image courtesy ARVP

This is the skeleton of the ARVP.

"They are very receptive to having a diversity of people work on the project," explained Huston. "In fact, people enjoy it so much that we even have some graduate students who have been involved in the past come by and check in on things."

The group is actively involved in promoting the project in the community, with appearances at science and technology conferences as well as local schools.

With a budget of $40 000 last year, the group feels it has been successful in raising awareness of the project, but feel as if there is still work to be done. "This is the first year [University] administration has really worked with us, so we are getting noticed," remarked Huston.

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Election Staff Needed

Vote 2001

The Elections Office is hiring POLL CLERKS and POLL CAPTAINS for the March 7 & 8 election.
Any S.U. Member is qualified.
Applications are available in SUB, rooms 2-900 and 302K.

Contact the elections office :
@ 492-7102 or cro@su.ualberta.ca

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA STUDENTS' UNION

Referendum

Vote 2001

The following question has been called and will appear on the election ballot (unofficial wording):

Do you approve of:
The creation of an Alberta Public Interest Research group (APIRG) at the University of Alberta, which will operate independently of the Students' Union as a student-funded, student-directed research, education, and action organization pursuing the interests of students on issues of public concern;

The addition of a fee of $2.50 per student per semester ($1.25 for part-time students) to the Non-Instructional Fee Structure of the University of Alberta as of September 2001 to fund APIRG;

The option for any student who does not wish to support APIRG to opt out and obtain a full refund of fees paid.

For those interested in registering a 'yes' or 'no' side there will be a meeting February 9, 2001 4pm 3rd floor SUB.

Contact the elections office :
@ 492-7102 or cro@su.ualberta.ca

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA STUDENTS' UNION

Election Staff Needed

Vote 2001

The Elections Office is hiring POLL CLERKS and POLL CAPTAINS for the March 7 & 8 election.
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UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA STUDENTS' UNION

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Vote 2001

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students' union elections
march 7th and 8th

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UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA STUDENTS' UNION

EDITORIAL

SU can, and should, nobly accommodate cuts

The students trying to lower SU membership fees for off-campus students have good arguments about fairness in their favour.

But they must also face a strong contention from the SU and others that off-campus students' fees are essentially subsidizing the relatively low fees that everyone else is paying—that other students' fees ought to be raised to compensate for the loss of revenue.

If the issue prevails in getting to referendum, the SU will say that there will be drastic cutbacks to valuable services as a result of the loss of $40 000 or so in fee money.

Certainly the students' aim is not to downgrade SU quality of service. But ultimately, the SU will decide precisely which cuts are made.

The SU could follow through with what might well be the campaign threats, and we could see Safewalk falter. The Inner City Kids' Christmas Party might fold, or the Housing Registry might crumble.

But these things will only happen if someone in the SU feels spiteful. Cutting $40 000 in non-essential services wouldn't be hard; $15 000 redesigning the SU website is a waste. VIDS, the TV "information" system in SUB, could probably stand to go. It ought to be clear to a body that spends so much time criticizing government and University spending that non-essential services have no place in an organization largely funded by students.

It isn't a question of whether harmless cuts can be made, it's whether someone will choose to do so. The SU may persist in arguing that it would be fairest if no cuts were made, since off-campus students can use most services.

Is that so? A long time ago, the SU allocated about $10 per year from student fees to pay off SUB's mortgage. That's a big chunk of the $11.69-per-term decrease the petitioners are asking for. And since off-campus students won't be setting foot in SUB, why should they pay for the building? Why contribute to campus-life activities when they aren't on campus?

Simply, they shouldn't need to. And if the SU has honour, it won't rhetoricize about making cuts to the services that *do* matter. It would be much more in the student interest to reprioritize and realize that significant changes *can* be made that will not affect the organization but which will allow a more representative equality in taxation.

Dan Lazin
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF



LETTERS

Gay marriages are banned by God

I'd like to address Jennifer Salzwedel's irrational article on the subject of gay marriages ("Gay marriages can't be avoided anymore," 1 February).

It's a well known fact that marriage is the legal union of a man and woman as husband and wife. Common to all species is the union of a male and a female in a life cycle that includes reproduction and the continued development of a species. I urge Jennifer to demonstrate the best-case scenario for a world full of gay "marriages." Does the word extinction pop up in your mind?

Homosexual acts should not be encouraged: they do not serve to advance or benefit humanity. Furthermore, allowing gay couples to adopt and guide the development of youth is nonsense. If nature had intended gay people to produce offspring, God would have replaced every male's rectum with a uterus.

From a Christian perspective, the hiring of Delwin Vriend in a Christian institution is amongst the list of abominable acts committed by the church in recent years. As a Christian institution, the King's College is responsible for upholding Christian values and ideals.

Jennifer suggests that teachers don't discuss their sexual lives with children, and recommends that professional behavior should be the deciding standard. Professional behavior is irrelevant.

Engaging in homosexual acts goes against the virtues held by Christians. The Bible equates homosexual intercourse to both incest and bestiality; can it be any more clear?

From the perspective of a practicing Christian, hiring an admitted homosexual is akin to hiring someone who crossbreeds domestic animals (Leviticus 19:19): it is unacceptable.

PAUL
SCIENCE I

Are we really tolerant of Christians?

If there is one thing that we take for granted here in North America, it would be the freedom of speech that we are entitled to. In some countries around the world, if you aren't careful about what you say or do, it could cost you your life.

Don't get me wrong, but with recent events like Islamic Awareness Week, a few questions come to mind: Are we really a tolerant country? Do we actually accept all faiths except Christianity?

As a Christian, I'm beginning to sense that an increasing number of people are growing hostile and are developing bitter feelings towards Christians. Just pick up a newspaper or tune into television or radio stations around us and you can see what I mean. We are becoming a nation that is tolerant to anything but Christianity, and it's really sad.

North America was built upon Christian foundation, yet many can't stand to hear anything about Jesus Christ. Sure, there are those out there who call themselves Christians but set a terrible example of what a Christian actually is. However, this does not give us the right to stereotype all Christians as being fanatic bigots who go around shoving religion down peoples throats. In fact, the church that I attend emphasizes living the life rather than talking it and that is what Christ meant for it to be.

I love people from all faiths. My only concern is that many of them think that Canada and the US are Christian-dominated countries, which is not true. It's just disconcerting when they observe that some people here are anti-Christian, they tend to believe that Christianity is a phoney religion which makes us look bad and somewhat of a disgrace to the rest of the world.

I just thought I'd share this matter to others which I know is a concern not only to myself but to all who call themselves Bible Christians.

DAVID WANNAS
MATERIALS ENGINEERING III

Bathroom ad revenue not worth the hassle

I strongly disagree with Eric Uhlich's opinion piece ("End bathroom ad vandalism," 1 February).

Although I have not personally defaced any bathroom advertiments, I applaud the culturejammers among us who have. Standing at the urinal is one of the few times during the day when advertisers have our undivided attention. This invasion of privacy has crossed the line of good taste (although I doubt that advertising has ever truly been presented in good taste).

Perhaps there are other methods of confronting corporations but the message sent by this vandalism is clear. That is, students are sick of these pathetic attempts to empty their pockets.

Uhlich notes that this advertising generates approximately $25 000 per year. By such accounts that equates to roughly $1 per student (or $0.50 each semester). Ask yourself if that is sufficient cause to be inundated 50 times a year by some advertiser's irritating concept of "hip." I suspect that most students would be willing to pay the additional four bits a semester for the piece of mind and custodial services.

Besides, as Uhlich noticed, the graffiti gets the message across. My hope is that maintenance costs incurred by ad vandalism will eventually surpass ad revenues, forcing University administration to remove the ads.

Or perhaps advertisers will simply take the hint that students don't appreciate being confronted with ads while conducting business.

Opponents of corporate pandering, write on.

JAY VAN BAVEL
ARTS IV

Bathroom vandals are merely cowards

This is in regards to Eric Uhlich's article on vandalizing advertisements in the bathrooms ("End bathroom ad vandalism," 1 February).

Although the article might have appeared to lean more to the right, he had some extremely valid points. The ads do pay for washroom maintenance. In general, the people that are hurt by the vandalism are the janitors, not the companies.

On Friday, in the mens washroom on the east side of the Powerplant, I noticed new writing on the ads. It said "Fuck Erick [sic] Uhlich." I don't know who you are, but you probably aren't helping your cause (whatever it is) by resorting to personal attacks. Doesn't an opinion (especially a researched one) have value these days?

To voice your solution to this problem so far you have (a) vandalized property that benefits you and the rest of the students on campus, and (b) resorted to name calling and threats as opposed to thinking. How ignorant can you possible be?

On top of that, whether Eric Uhlich was right or not, at least he had the balls to put his name behind his opinion. There are other methods of expressing your opinion. You can write to newspapers or lobby government bodies. I say fuck the intentionally ignorant, not Eric Uhlich.

Oh damn—now my name is going to be all over the washrooms.

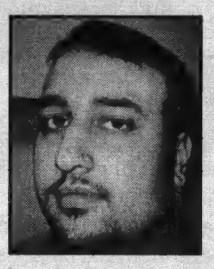
JOE DEVANEY
BUSINESS IV

Letters to the editor should be dropped off at room 0-10 of the Students' Union Building, or e-mailed to managing@su.ualberta.ca.

The Gateway *reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of letters it deems racist, sexist, libelous, or otherwise hateful in nature.*

Letters to the editor should be no longer than 350 words in length and include the name, student identification number, program, and year of study of the author, to be considered for publication.

I think I'm ugly, but at least I'm not shallow



Jagdeep Dhadli

The problem is that more and more people do want to look like Brad Pitt, George Clooney, Gwyneth Paltrow, or Lloyd Robertson. It's unfortunate, but who's to blame? Now I know the easy target is, of course, the media. But how can you stay mad at a group of people who gave us Fraggle Rock?

I was in the Bookstore the other day and I happened to overhear these two girls talking while looking over some fashion mags.

One thing they said kinda stuck with me: "God, I wish I looked like her!" Perhaps this was just an innocent comment. In fact, it most likely was. Regardless, it got me a thinking. Why are so few people unhappy with their appearance?

Now, I'm certainly not a dreamboat. Check out my headbox at the top of this article—I look like the love child of Quasimodo and Rod Brind'amour. But you know what? It really doesn't bother me that much. I've accepted my place in this silly little universe. I'm a weird-looking, overweight, comic-book-reading walrus, "goooo-b-koo-ka-choo", and there is no one else I'd rather be. Sure, my incongruous visage has kept me from most dating circles (hell, I don't think I'll ever fulfill my dream of sleeping with Justine Bateman), but it doesn't make me wish I was Brad Pitt.

The problem is that more and more people *do* want to look like Brad Pitt, George Clooney, Gwyneth Paltrow, or Lloyd Robertson. It's unfortunate, but who's to blame? Now I know the easy target is, of course, the media. But how can you stay mad at a group of people who gave us *Fraggle Rock?* Other targets certainly would include fashion magazines (wait a minute, does that count as media? Ah, fuck, who cares) but are they too easy a scapegoat? So who is it? The evil media, the anorexic chick on the cover of *Cosmo*? Nope, it's neither of those guys. You see, dear reader, those guys are simply a mirror that reflects our own superficiality and shallowness.

Magazines and TV give us only what we want. Yes, my friend, we are to blame. We're the people who drool over six-packs and nice, firm breasts. We're the people who spend obscene amounts of money on nice hair and perfect smiles. We are the people who jerk off to the gorgeous women on the weather network—er, maybe that's just me.

The point is, it's our own cruelty that makes fat girls cry and ugly guys withdraw.

The point is that we suck. And don't think that I'm excluding myself here. I may be comfortable with the way I look, but I still can't believe they made Whoopi Goldberg the center square on *Hollywood Squares* (ewww).

So, what can we do? I guess we could stop buying magazines and watching TV, but that's probably not going to happen. The only solution is to not judge so quickly and let a person speak before you pull out the mace. Hear ugly people out—there are plenty of reasons not to like someone besides their appearance.

Oh, and if you're looking at my picture and thinking, "Jeez, this dude's just some ugly goon who's trying to make himself feel better and gain acceptance," I suggest you turn that cynical eye inward and contemplate why it is that you think that way and why you feel that ugly people are different and are in constant craving of acceptance—because you've just proven my point.

Canadians are hypocritical to bash Americans



Jason Tobias

It is now fashionable for people around the world to bash Americans while hypocritically lining up to do business with them.

Now that Molson has sold the Habs to American business interests, things will never be the same again. The Canadiens may currently be a mediocre hockey team, but that's hardly the point. The Canadiens are as much of a symbol of Canada as one could hope to find. The name says it all.

We've been at cultural odds with the United States for ages now and Canadians have long been decrying the perilous state of our nation's culture, attitudes and way of life. Even our political process is being "Americanized," with copycat low voter turnout and mudslinging TV spots designed less to promote than demote.

It is now fashionable for people around the world to bash Americans while hypocritically lining up to do business with them. Canada is perhaps the leading example—the vast majority of our trade is south of the border and our Prime Minister fights madly to be the first to make the holy pilgrimage to the White House. At the same time, our federal government talks about trying to protect and preserve our culture from the Americans—efforts that some feel are too little, too late.

As Canadians, we have no natural defences against the "American way," which seems to include an imperialistic need to pass itself on with missionary zeal. As such, it's easy to see how one could be convinced of an American takeover, intentional or otherwise.

But Anglophone Canadians have never had much of a distinct identity. Every one of us is of "foreign" origin except for First Nations people. For us to cry out that our culture and way of life are slowly being supplanted by the American way is ludicrous. If anything, our way of live is converging with that of the Americans in this, the so-called global village. This progression is further abetted by the fact that Canadians and Americans already share a language, an ancestry (read: everyone) and reasonably similar values.

It is easier to draw comparisons between Albertans and Texans, both politically and culturally, than between Albertans and Newfoundlanders. As friends and neighbours usually do, Canada and the United States have much in common, and reasonably unified goals.

For us, as Canadians, to deride Americans for stealing our talent, replacing our "culture" and having more vulgar habits is reminiscent of a school-kid telling people what a nerd his best friend is so he'll look cooler. Who comes out looking worse?

There's nothing wrong with being proud and having a national identity. But an identity, much like an opposition party, should not be so shallow as to be built just upon the rejection of something else. In any case, aren't Canadians meant to be humble?

What it boils down to is that before we are quick to be smug about our superiority we should take a look around and see where we're going.

It might not be too long before people think that we're worse than those Americans.

Dave Alexander's TOP TEN

Scenes cut from *Castaway*

10 Inexplicably, giant boats with Fed-Ex logos painted on the side keep circling the island.
9 An inflatable goat washes ashore, radically and disturbingly changing the direction of the film.
8 A clearly insane Hanks wraps his feces in palm leaves and drops them in front of various trees on the island, thereby resuming his delivery job.
7 Wilson, the volleyball, comes alive and is voiced by one of those wacky Wayans.
6 Hanks fashions himself a pert little coconut bra and declares himself "Miss Castaway."
5 Hanks partakes in a high-energy break-dancing competition against Aquaman and the Sub-Mariner.
4 Hanks is rescued when he finally walks to the other side of the island and finds a Starbucks.
3 After getting rescued, Hanks uses his new look to get a gig as the replacement singer for the Grateful Dead.
2 Hanks goes on a post-rescue trip to the 7-11 for nachos and porn.
1 At the finale, Hanks finally opens the mystery box and finds a flare gun, which he promptly uses to shoot himself in the face.

SUB GAMES
Latest Arcade Games
Dance Dance Revolution (3rd MIX)
Rush 2049
and others....
4 lane miniature 10 pin bowling
Located in lower level, SUB
Games provided by Southern Music Ltd.
STUDENTS UNION

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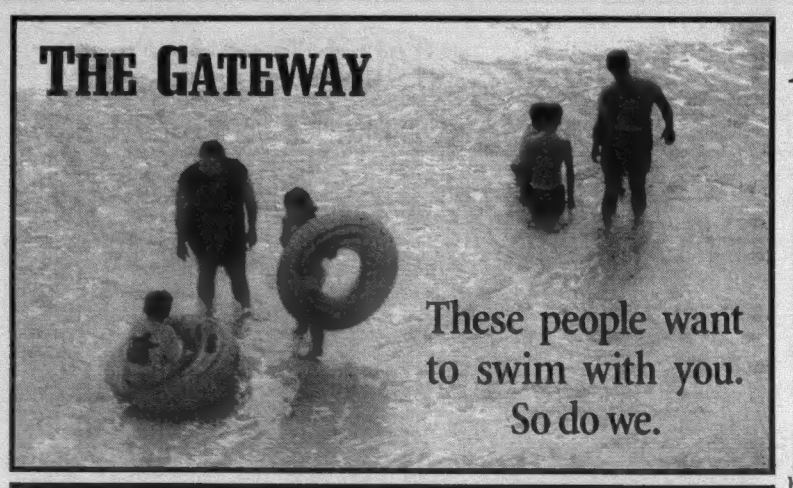
WHAT WE REQUIRE
• Excellent English communication skills
• Availability of 4 shifts/week
• Some keyboarding experience

ABSOLUTELY NO SALES INVOLVED

HOW TO APPLY:
Fax resume to: (780) 990-1024
Email to: bpeeler@connect.ab.ca
Apply in person at out office: Suite 1160, Milner Building 10040-104 Street
Visit our web site: www.Cfgroup.ca

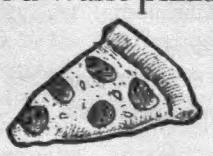
So, you think you know accountants ?


Quiet guys in visors who
sit at their desks all day,
adding numbers,
balancing the books.
Bean counters.
Pencil pushers.
Take another look.
Discover the real world of Chartered Accountants.
Join the Student Mentorship Program.
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The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Alberta
Edmonton: (780) 424-7391
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Fax: (780) 425-8766
careerinfo@icaa.ab.ca
Visit us at www.calearn.com



AVENUE
Pizza & Lounge

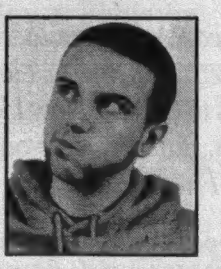
You want pizza?



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8519 - 112 Street
432-0536

Ads before movies are the last straw



Logan Rutter

Higher ticket prices are causing people rent movies and stay at home. With fewer people filling more seats, theaters need to make up their economic shortfall somewhere.

Ladies and gentlemen, plans are being made against you: plans to lure you into theatres with promises of entertainment and then make you sit through commercial after commercial while making you pay for it.

These advertising traps are already at work across the country. The traps are so familiar that we squirm and mutter under our breaths when placed there, searching the cracks of our seats in vain for the channel changer. But the remote doesn't exist; we are a captive audience in a theatre watching commercials. Just when did theatres start showing commercials before movies? What can we do to stop watching commercials on time we've paid for?

When I have a little free time, when I need a brain break, I turn on the TV. I'll surf the channels until I find a promising show and vegetate away. Roughly every ten minutes, the strain on my tiny attention span is alleviated by the commencement of advertising.

I own a set of rabbit ears that bring TV into my household for free. While broadcasting a free signal, the TV channels must recover their costs by some other means than direct payment. These broadcast costs, obviously, are covered by the sale of advertising time. Suffice it to say that I am willing to sit through three to six commercials every ten minutes to get free TV. If worse comes to worst, I can change the channel. It's my choice.

When I go to a movie, I pay my three to twelve dollars to see a movie—not ten minutes of advertising. These commercials do not advance the plot, they do not build a character, they simply advertise.

Make no mistake, advertisements have existed *within* movies for a very long time. It was not a coincidence that everyone in *Twister* was driving a Dodge and drinking Pepsi. The box of Corn Pops placed haphazardly in a breakfast scene is done so with specific intent. An adulterous character is found with Clairol lipstick on his collar and is slapped by a hand wearing deBeer's diamonds. Armloads of Hugo Boss shirts are flung from a window while he packs his possessions into his BMW, meekly saying, "I'll be staying at the Hilton if you need me." Coincidence? Of course not.

While these covert ads are often an eyesore within the movie, I can tolerate them better more than outright commercials.

Theatres are being paid to put these commercials before each movie. If theatres are making more and more money on advertising, why are the ticket prices going up? Why are we not getting a discount for sitting through these ads?

Here's my theory: movie theatres have been building megaplexes like SilverCity all across the country. This has disrupted the delicate supply-and-demand balance, causing there to be a glut of theatres and comparatively few people to fill them. These complexes are expensive to build, causing a need to raise ticket prices. Higher ticket prices are causing people rent movies and stay at home. With fewer people filling more seats, theatres need to make up their economic shortfall somewhere.

Hence, we now have commercials before movies. Could Cineplex Odeon and Famous Players have renovated the existing structures they owned, avoiding the excess costs causing the need for pre-movie advertisements? They could have, but they didn't. They arrogantly assumed we wouldn't be annoyed by more advertisements.

But without a remote, ten minutes of commercials in the theatre is much more obtrusive. We should all use these ten minutes to tell theatre managers we don't want commercials before our movies.

I'm not being anti-materialistic and I'm not being an anti-caplitalist. I'm a consumer who doesn't want to watch advertisements when I have paid to watch a movie. The captive audience needs to speak out against a shameless tactic to increase profit margins and add fancy new theatres that we don't really want.

sweet savings!

From February 8 - 14th, buy your sweetie a **$25** Edmonton Centre and Eaton Centre gift certificate for only **$20!**

What a sweet way to save!

This ad must be presented to receive this special limited time offer. Available exclusively at the Eaton Centre Customer Service Desk, lower level, in the food court. Limit one gift certificate per person, per purchase. While quantities last.

eaton centre
edmonton centre
downtown

Lose Your Virginity-Label



IT'S NOT WRITTEN IN THE STARS, SO WHY IS IT SUCH A BIG DEAL?

article by Kate Rossiter / THE GATEWAY

It was easy for me to label myself. One day I was a virgin and the next day I wasn't. How I defined virginity, however, didn't matter to anyone but me. The label was there to mark a milestone in my life—and that was it.

I remember when as a kid, my mom took my sister and I to hear a female Christian pop singer perform. Based on my knowledge of Christian pop music, I wasn't expecting much. There were groups of teenagers, full of anticipation, sitting in the church pews. The three of us squished into a pew near the back, and my sister and I giggled at the other kids. How could they possibly be excited about listening to Christian music?

When the show started, my expectations were crushed—she was actually pretty good! The songs were catchy and she was jumping around the stage with tons of energy. Towards the end of the show, she invited all the people who wanted to remain virgins until marriage to join her on stage. She then included in her invitation those who had made mistakes and wanted to reclaim their virginity. I watched as many determined teenagers went forward and I wondered how you could possibly reclaim your virginity. I had always assumed that once you lost it, it was gone.

My definition of a virgin was the same as the one in the dictionary: "a person who has not had sexual intercourse." I was quite sure that people couldn't reclaim something physical like that. I now know that there are circumstances in which people label themselves as virgins even after having sex. The definition in the dictionary obviously fails to address everybody and should, therefore, not be so general.

I often wonder if there is any reason in North American twenty-first century society for labelling people as virgins or not. There has always been an emphasis on the importance of female virginity without concern for male virginity. Women are supposed to be pure and innocent ,yet there are no equivalent expectations for men. This double standard can be seen in many cultures, especially those with patriarchal histories.

Female virginity is probably more of a focus than male virginity because it can be tested physically. In the past, the belief was that an unbroken hymen meant a woman was sexually innocent. Some cultures are still fixated on the hymen as assurance of sexual purity. In Pakistan, for example, a girl's sexual honour affects her family's status. Promiscuity is a sin, and girls who prove unvirginal may be murdered by their families in "honour killings." My brother, then, could kill me because I'm not "pure" and he wouldn't be punished. It's hard for me to believe that family members can murder girls who lose their virginity before marriage. I'm sure I'll never hear of a law that allows girls to kill their brothers for having premarital sex. Virginity is necessary to stay alive in many areas of the world, but in North American culture it seems to be becoming less important.

I believe it's less important because there is such a large grey area between virginity and non-virginity. Anal sex could be the crossover for some, while others might only consider traditional penis-in-vagina sex to be the crossover. There is no specific point that can be marked as the homosexual loss of virginity or the heterosexual loss of virginity. If there was a difference between the two points, bisexuals could lose their virginity twice—once with a same-sex partner and again with an opposite-sex partner! Losing their virginity twice would mean that after one form of sexual intercourse, they could still consider themselves virgins of another form of sexual intercourse. Because I wonder how someone could reclaim their virginity, it isn't surprising that I also wonder how someone could lose their virginity twice. It seems weird to me that anyone would make such a big deal about a label that is so poorly defined.

Of course I understand that there are situations, such as rape and incest, after which people might want to continue to label themselves as virgins. If they didn't choose to give up their virginity, why shouldn't they consider themselves virgins? But women who lose their virginity while drunk can then claim that they're virgins because they didn't choose to lose their virginity either. I don't understand this—what's the point? It's as if the label is there so that people can convince themselves of things that aren't real.

Promiscuity is a sin, and girls who prove unvirginal may be murdered by their families in "honour killings." My brother, then, could kill me because I'm not "pure" and he wouldn't be punished.

Virginity can have more than one meaning; it did that night at the Christian pop concert. Lots of people stood on stage with the singer and vowed to remain virgins until marriage—whatever that meant. I still don't understand why anyone would reclaim their virginity after losing it, but I suppose it doesn't matter if I understand or not. People's perception of their position on the continuum of virginity/non-virginity might be really important for their own happiness. As far as I'm concerned, virgin is useless as a universal term because, theoretically, everybody could define it differently.



Arts & Entertainment

The Gateway Tuesday, 6 February, 2001 entertainment@su.ualberta.ca

Former Kennedy rants about Bush, Gore, and *Frankenchrist*

Political punk icon Jello Biafra puts on exhuastive and often ironic spoken word marathon for fans at the Horowitz

GIG REVIEW
Jello Biafra
Myer Horowitz Theatre
2 February

Geoff Moysa
Arts & Entertainment Staff



Chul-Ahn Jeong / The Gateway

Spoken word artist Jello Biafra gave fans their money's worth and then some during his four-hour-plus show.

Seeing a cultural iconoclast suddenly demystified is a bit of an unsettling experience. Much like realizing the guy in the Santa suit when you were a kid was just your dad, seeing Jello Biafra speak on Friday night was strange, yet somehow enlightening.

Former lead singer for the seminal 80s California punk band, the Dead Kennedys, the oddly-named Biafra has done away with much of the punk rock showmanship and now uses spoken word as his medium of choice for his still-controversial political and social messages.

Biafra held court in the Myer Horowitz theatre on Friday with little pomp and circumstance. Wearing simply a purple velvet shirt tucked into his pants, the Jello man looked more like someone's sort-of-hip dad than the man behind inflammatory songs such as "Holiday In Cambodia," "Let's Lynch The Landlord," and "Too Drunk To Fuck."

Biafra got the ball rolling and launched into what ended up as an almost-five-hour series of speeches, rants and humourous anecdotes on politics, civil liberties, social issues, and artistic expression that made sure the packed crowd got what they paid for.

Biafra is certainly no stranger to social controversy and censorship (the Dead Kennedys were charged with "distribution of material harmful to minors" in 1986 for the artwork featured on their album *Frankenchrist*) and his material on the subject was clever, insightful and drawn from experience.

With speeches such as "Ban Everything!" he humourously wove ironic and satirical accounts taking shots at irresponsible parenting, the fundamentalist Christian right, and especially Tipper Gore, who is responsible for the Parental Music Resource Centre and the aforementioned charge against the Dead Kennedys.

Luckily for the crowd, he proved to be a skilled and entertaining orator, at some points employing his infamous lyrical delivery style found on Dead Kennedys records to get his message across in an engaging fashion. What could have been five hours of boredom was thankfully transformed into an interesting and usually amusing display of thought.

The night did have its low points, however. Much of Biafra's political commentary came off as unseasoned and overly deterministic, with frequent barbs thrown at George W Bush that started off as amusing (especially during a reading of some of Bush's finer gaffes), but quickly grew tired. Although Biafra was a presidential candidate last year with the Green Party, many of his points about NAFTA, domestic finance and foreign policy in areas such as the Middle East and Asia were oversimplified and showed a lack of comprehensive knowledge in areas of economics and international politics.

It also seemed more than a little contradictory that much of Biafra's rants were aimed at the stifling social repression of the religious right and the ills of preaching and evangelism. But for much of the evening, the atmosphere was almost one of a fervent church service, with the crowd collectively booing such names as "Stockwell Day" and "Monsanto."

Somehow though, this irony escaped Biafra as it was repeatedly driven home that the point of this session was not to accept his messages at face value but to digest, question and form your own thoughts and opinions.

How much of the audience took it as food for thought and not dogma is another matter, but what is clear is that the punk spirit is not dead for Jello Biafra—it has just moved into a different forum and for several hours on Friday night, a few hundred university students, punk rockers and people of all stripes and banners got to share in it.

Freddie Prinze Jr + four supermodels and a murder mystery = not much

FILM REVIEW
Head Over Heels
Directed by Mark Waters
Starring Monica Potter, Freddie Prinze Jr, Sarah O'Hare, and Shalom Harlow
Now Playing

Yunn Au-Yeung
Arts & Entertainment Staff

What could be better than spending a night with Freddie Prinze Jr and a theatre full of his adoring prepubescent fans? I have to admit that I find him to be quite the "hottie," but how about the fact that he rarely does anything in a movie supposedly featuring him?

Many critics have blasted *Head Over Heels* as a huge mess. Toilet humour that is gratuitous and more disgusting than funny with a plot and jokes that are idiotic. I have no idea what the critics were looking for when they decided to trash this movie because the audience, myself included, found ourselves laughing uncontrollably; the guy behind me was laughing so hard he snorted up his soft drink.

Head Over Heels takes place in New York City, where everyone lives a fast-paced life full of ass-kissing parties and ridiculously pompous people. In a city where models and other celebrities roam around incessantly, how is innocent girl-next-door Amanda Pierce (Monica Potter, *Patch Adams*, *Con Air*) supposed to survive and find love?

After a string of bad relationships in which she always ends up the loser, Pierce finally decides to move out of the boyfriends' apartments and to find some regular roommates. She lands herself an unbeatable deal on a luxurious Eastside apartment in which her roommates are four super-thin, super-fabulous models (Shalom Harlow, Ivana Milicevic, Sarah O'Hare, and Tomiko Fraser). The only thing missing is (you guessed it) the handsome rich guy.

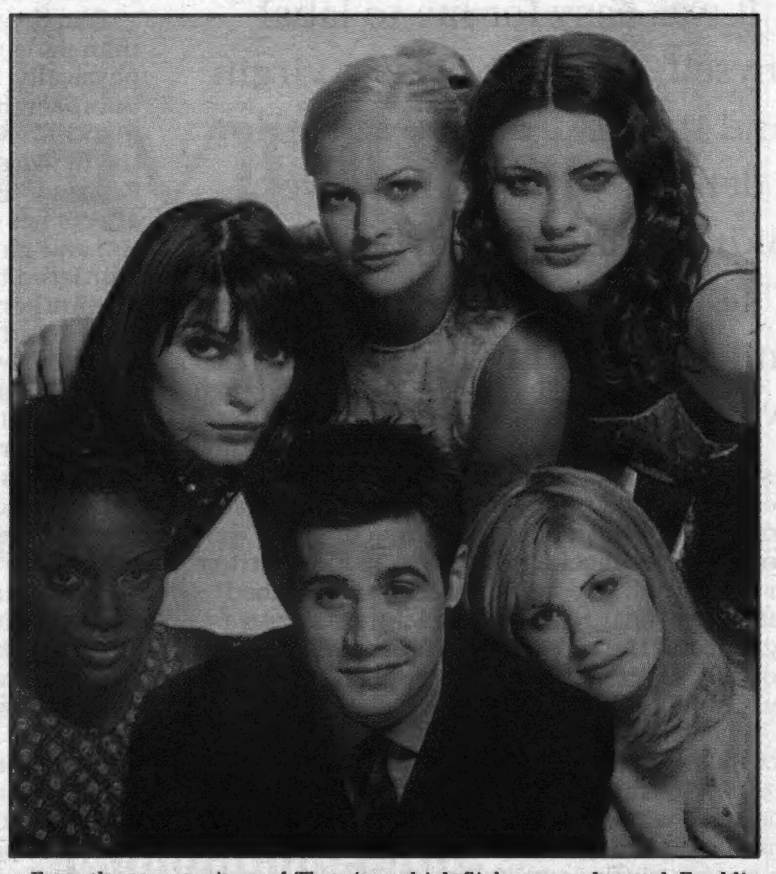
Only when she falls for the smooth, debonair heartthrob Jim Winston (Freddie Prinze Jr, *She's All That*, *Boys and Girls*) does she think that things might be falling into place in her life. As no man is as perfect as they seem, Pierce and her four roommates do some undercover work to find out more about Winston and go as far as becoming peeping tom-ettes looking for that inevitable flaw.

Ah, but here's the rub: Pierce witnesses him committing what appears to be a cold-blooded crime. Her life begins to spin out of control as she and her roommates go back to their amateur detective work in trying to solve the so-called murder, only leading to more and more confusion and trouble for the girls.

Head Over Heels attempts to show the world of fashion in a satirical manner and to bring back the notion of bittersweet romance. A romantic comedy with great exterior shots and expressive use of colour adequately portrays the ambience of the hustle and bustle of metropolitan New York.

Unfortunately, Prinze barely does the amount of acting a headliner would be expected to do. Although to his credit, he's slowly breaking away from his teen heartthrob status and moving into slightly more mature roles.

Potter delivers an awkward clichéd performance in which the only thought running through viewers' minds is how much she resembles Julia Roberts. The most entertaining performances are those given by the four real-life models. Their lines were delivered with the perfect amount of panache and they were able to poke fun at themselves while still carrying that sexy air models are expected to carry.



From the same writers of *There's Something About Mary*, the movie has the same type of slapstick humour, much to the usual Freddie fans' disdain.

Unless you're a die-hard for chick-flicks or a devoted Freddie Prinze Jr groupie, it's better to leave this one for the matinées, or better yet, the dollar theatre: pretty decent for Freddy Prinze Jr flick.

SubUrbia tips hat to Stalin in its portrayal of Gen-X slacker hell

THEATRE REVIEW

SubUrbia
Directed by Kevin Sutley
Starring Nathan Cuckow, Chris Bullough, Chris Fassbender, and Tina Stewart
Kill Your Television Productions
New City Suburbs
Until 17 February

Leah Collins
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT STAFF

"Special thanks should really go out to the Cold War that spawned suburban living, and that enigmatic, charismatic, diamond coated daemon of dictators ... the one, the only, Joseph Stalin," states the quote on the back of the program for *SubUrbia*.

Without the aforementioned "man of iron" and his threatening red cloud of communist terror, it's quite possible that US society may never have birthed that paramount achievement of the American Dream: the suburbs.

Ah yes, the suburbs; the North American equivalent to the land of milk and honey. Where else could one stumble across the spectacle of a shimmering Chrysler in every driveway, tract housing as far as the eye can see, and of course, that mecca of modern convenience, the 7-11 store. The suburban community is the land of the middle-class: those who dared to dream for the luxurious mediocrity of colour TV and Oreos in the hope of creating a better tomorrow for their 2.4 children.

Eric Bogosian's *SubUrbia* takes place in the fictional community of Burnfield, Illinois, a town that could substitute for almost any nondescript upper-middleclass neighbourhood. There, at the back of a 7-11, the audience learns that for five suburbanite youths the American Dream is a total nightmare.

As each of them are confronted with the question of what to do with their lives, the characters find themselves trapped in a slacker purgatory of microwave pizza and television, torn between the possibility of great things outside of Burnfield and the stagnant comfort of the 7-11 asphalt.

The events of *SubUrbia* allow for a turning point in the characters' lives. A former classmate, Pony (Lodewyk Bredenkamp), has managed to jump Burnfield's picket fences and land the ultimate fantasy job, that of rock star. Pony's hit band, Radioneck, is playing near Burnfield, and Mr RockStar himself is slated to pay a visit to his old "buddies" the same night. Pony's success and anticipated return lead his former school chums into an abyss of contemplation of their banality that has become their suburban existence.

Not seeking to carve out a career, Bogosian's characters are simply trying to eke out a reality. Whether or not they can cope with what they find is another matter. Jeff (played with gripping intensity by Chris Fassbender) is perhaps the character most representative of the general indecision about entering the "real world." Living at home with mumsy and dadsy, he works at a go-nowhere job and is too disaffected to be bothered with taking more than one course at the local community college. Jeff's only vague ambition is to do/express something of tremendous magnitude. Unfortunately, in the suburban land of the so-called American Dream, Jeff has become too lazy and apathetic to actually *do* anything.

His girlfriend Sooze (Tina Stewart), however, seems to have it all figured out. Her dream, although stereotypical, is to make it big in New York as a performance artist. Sooze doesn't want to find herself in the same predicament as her older sister: young, married, and tied down with a litter of munchkins. She recognizes that Burnfield is a formica-lined cage and to escape it she champions herself as a revolutionary, a crusader for all causes.

Despite Sooze's goodwill, Bogosian uses her as a model of teenage self-righteousness. Sooze is against racism but living in suburbia she has no concept of the issue she champions, as all of her friends are white. Bogosian makes it obvious that there is no lack of hypocrisy.

Reality is not to be found anywhere in SubUrbia. Everything from the characters' ambitions to their conversations is filtered through television culture, the closest link to the outside world. Buff (portrayed, possibly while on speed, by Chris Bullough), the group's token stoner, literally views the world through a video lens, filming his life (a collection of Jetsons episodes, clouds, and pictures of his mom praying) in the hope of someday becoming a famous videographer.

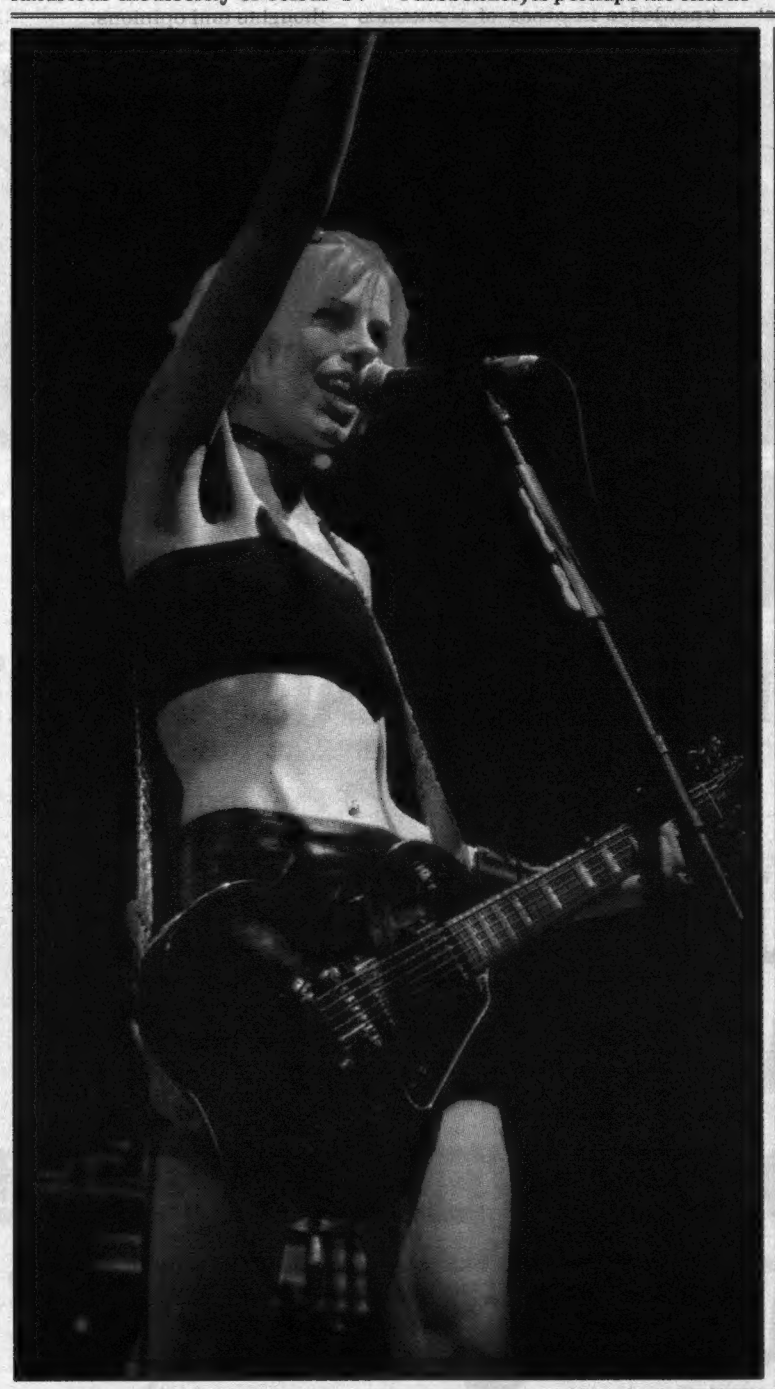


Tim (Nathan Cuckow) is perhaps the only character who dared to emerge out of the cocoon of the 'burbs by joining the army. However, the experience was not to his liking and thus he cut-off part of his finger so that he could nurse a drinking habit with his disability pay.

Although the bleak world world view and slacker mentality of Bogosian's characters are as stereotyped as the clichéd Pakistani owner of the Burnfield 7-11, the spirited performances of the young and talented cast make the characters more identifiable than one would expect. They transcend cartoon caricatures of slacker youth and become multi-dimensional youth full of self-doubt and confusion. It is the actors who elevate the play above the average script.

The play shows us a hopeless world of nightmarish apathy and disillusionment set amongst the pristine plastic of the American Dream. *SubUrbia* is the kind of place more terrifying than a dictatorship—it represents a self-imposed tyranny of the mind.

Thank-you Joseph Stalin.



Marcus Bence / THE GATEWAY

Scratching Post singer, Nicole, perfects the fine art of the rockstar mid-riff pose for throngs of adoring fans during last Saturday's show at Red's.

If you like to see others' shorts then go surfing

MINI-FEATURE

Internet Short Films

James Elford
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT STAFF

There are a ton of movies on the Internet, but unfortunately many of them are terrible. The same freedom that allows innovative, yet under-funded, filmmakers a venue to display their work to the world also allows everyone with a video camera and a few friends a chance to let everyone see them goof off in front of the camera.

Fledgling directors are embracing the Internet, with many short films being released on sites like ifilm.com and atomfilms.com ranging from profound to profoundly disturbing.

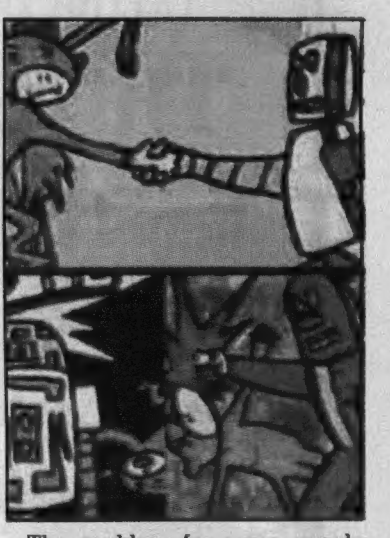
Covert Operatives shows us what can be done with a bunch of old GI Joes, a gallon of fake blood, and a highly disturbed mind. While not all movies revolve around the destruction of toys, many rely on a single joke or premise (which may or may not be highly amusing) to carry the film.

Too many are simply awful, such as *2 Guys Go To Hollywood*, which follows the wacky and lame adventures of two guys ... going to Hollywood, or one of many *Blair Witch* spoofs. Still, some clever shorts can be found while wading through the multitude of film, like the hilarious *Napster Bad, Money Good*, a flash animated stab at the lawsuit-happy Metallica.

There are dramas and experimental films, some of which are groundbreaking, and some of which are inane. While the idea of a documentary shot from a cat's perspective might be mildy innovative, creativity cannot make up for a poorly produced film. Other films have no problem mixing inventiveness and quality, such as *The Yellow Umbrella* where a childhood dreams and nightmares become intermeshed.

There's even a growing number of reality-based films that can be seen as either an entertaining or disturbing look into the lives of real people (note: This does not include webcam sites nor the clip of the man being attacked by the donkey). Spike and Mike, whose Sick and Twisted festivals have shown the world radical animation for years, have entered into the forum by presenting *Monkey vs Robot*, a music video which asks the age old question, "Why can't we all just get along?" Even the great Bill Plympton, who has been producing independent cutting edge animation for years can be found putting work on-line at sites like atomfilms.com.

The sheer number leaves room for an ever-diversifying range of films to fill any niche imaginable. This is especially true of *Star Wars* fans, who have made parodying their favourite films a cottage industry. Contributions range from the mildly amusing *American Jedi* to the awful *Chewie's Star Wars Holiday Special*, which uses action figures and poor animation in place of comedy. Spoofing is not restricted to *Star Wars*, as can be seen with the all Mime version of *The Thin Red Line* (*The Thin Red Mime*). The glut of wannabe filmmakers is extremely large and growing.



The problem for some people seems to lie in the fact that there are so many movies and videos to choose from. They complain of trying to find the diamond in the rough as they wade through music videos about dildos and films done with the half-bored friends of some 18-year-old auteur.

While some might raise their nose at the oceans of lame shorts, I would suggest that they go to the video store or the movie theatre, where they can pay a lot more money for the same privilege. The Internet is providing a much needed forum for independent and inventive filmmaking from around the world. While there will always be a place for the big budget film, the internet and the artists who use it will come into their own as a creative alternative.

It will not only supply the film industry with a much needed creative boost, by providing a training ground for new talent, but will constantly challenge viewers in ways that industry driven film can not.



6gig
Tin Can Experiment
Artemis Records
www.6gig.com

Heather Adler
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT STAFF

At first glance it's obvious that this band has all the stereotypical elements required for a group to make it big on modern rock airwaves all over the US and Canada.

The songs are heavy but still moderately melodic and careful not to stray too far from what we have come to expect from young irate gen-X-ers.

There are moments, such as in their first single "Hit The Ground," where a few unique elements start to emerge from the clutter of distortion. Interesting harmonics, catchy riffs, and even a noteworthy lyric or two can be found if you listen closely enough. For a debut release, it isn't bad but it isn't really good either.

If you've picked up a disc from Linkin Park, Papa Roach, or any other such band lately you can safely skip this one without worrying about being left too far behind on the rock trend de jour.

Take one part spiky-haired angst-ridden lead singer, two parts ultra-distorted guitar, a dash of misguided youth, mix well and serve lukewarm to the 17-35 year old Caucasian male demographic.



Shawn Mullins
Beneath The Velvet Sun
Columbia Records
www.shawnmullins.com

Kris Berezanski
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT STAFF

While no song on his new album tops *Souls' Core*'s "Lullaby," Shawn Mullins has a more cohesive and solid record in *Beneath The Velvet Sun*. Mullins, going with the popular trend, adds loops and beats to his acoustic folk-rock sound to make a pleasant, easily accessible pop record. It can be tedious at times, but *Beneath The Velvet Sun* manages to have enough variation to keep one interested throughout.

The first single, "Everywhere I Go" also happens to be the best track, a well-executed number that is similar to Tal Bachman's debut disc. This album may be Mullins' swan song as most consider him a one-hit wonder, but let's hope he stays around a while longer.



D:Fuse
Progressive Mix Session 1.0
Moonshine
www.moonshine.com

Karen Hackenbrook
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT STAFF

Once again, progressive trance is left with a bad rap all because of artists who feel it necessary to forward their solo careers.

With two Psychotrance disks behind him, DJ D:Fuse brings a mediocre blend of house and electronic dance music with his self-titled debut album *Progressive Mix Session 1.0*.

Originally from Austin, Texas, D:Fuse promises to take listeners on a "journey through many distinct styles."

However the constant drumbeat throughout all twelve tracks makes it hard to distinguish these differences.

At times, a choppy-electronic sound is added taking away any chance this disc may have had in achieving rhythm.

I'm sure Ross from that TV show *Friends* could do a better job on his keyboard.

The only journey D:Fuse will be going on is the one to the bottom shelf of my CD rack.

Although much of the disk is repetitive in its attempt to remain cohesive, Dececio's "Spectrum" and Tocharian's "Circadian Rhythms" are somewhat tolerable.

If Texas only could have kept D:Fuse a secret, perhaps the future for progressive house would look a little brighter.



Ladytron
604
Emperor Norton Records
www.invictahifi.co.uk/ladytron.html

James Rossiter
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT STAFF

It's 1984. You're in a club in Stuttgart. On stage are two men dressed in black toying with computers fronted by two sleek female singers.

Synthesizers are drowning your every sense, drumbeats alone are pumping your drug-infused heart. You're dancing like you've never danced before, and that white suit you bought last week has really worked its charm.

Then suddenly you wake up. You're in your bedroom. It's 2001 And that crazy music playing is the new Ladytron disc.

Ha! And you thought 80s German synth-pop was dead!

Ladytron have managed to capture the ambiance of music nearly two decades old on their debut disc.

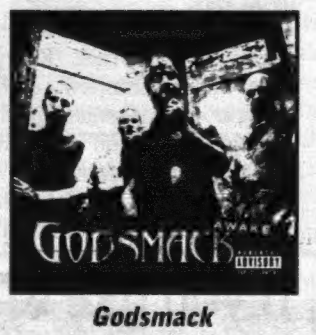
Like Kraftwerk meets Devo, Ladytron's two chanteuses add robot-like melodies to cheesy computerized music.

What results is a surprisingly fun record. While other more serious influences occasionally enter the picture (primarily electronica), the album steers clearly towards the tacky.

German speech samples overlay many of the tracks, only enhancing the European feel of this album.

If this so-called 80s revival thing really happens, then Ladytron just might be the Next Big Thing.

And we all know it's gonna happen.



Godsmack
Awake
Republic/Universal
www.godsmack.com

Ryan Willman
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT STAFF

Sully Erna and the boys have done it again, offering their ever-growing fan base more of their propulsive, emotive and overwhelming hard rock music in the form of their latest album, *Awake*.

After listening to this raw disk, it becomes obvious that the original work put out by this Boston-based tribe was a tentative entrance into the world of music.

Well, no longer will they be holding anything back as *Awake* hammers out industrial rock laced with a respectable dose of groove that exceeds their sophomore work on their self-titled debut album in passion and energy.

The unique Godsmack style has not changed, it's just become more intense as Sully reveals his unhindered anger towards almost everything from the mistakes of his own life to the greedy materialism of the world.

Moreover, what makes this album and their previous self-titled release engaging, is the incorporation of influences from the Wiccan religion.

Spirituality and supernatural elements run rampant within the lyrics backed by machine gun guitar rhythms, as Godsmack once again lays the smack down on the aggro-rock culture.

Do the Gateway! Uh!
Do the Gateway! Uh!
Do the, do the, doooo...
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Sade
Lovers Rock
Epic
www.sadeonline.com

Kate Rossiter
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT STAFF

Eight years have passed since Sade last released an album of new songs. The long wait ends with *Lovers Rock*, a homogeneous album of smooth vocals and relaxing, silky beats.

She effortlessly threads together the intimate album of soft urban melodies with her passionate singing and gentle humming. From her 1984 debut, *Diamond Life*, to 1992's *Love Deluxe*, Sade's music has progressed steadily from jazz-flavoured to atmospheric—perfect for a candlelit hot tub.

She has continued this slow shift in songwriting to produce her recent collection of captivating mood melodies. The soothing album is capable of transporting your mind to another world for seemingly endless periods of reflection.

Sade has delicately combined beats and vocals in powerful tracks such as "By Your Side" and "King of Sorrow" to create a record worthy of any collection. *Lovers Rock* can soothe even the most savage beast.



Propagandhi
Today's Empires, Tomorrow's Ashes
G-7 Welcoming Comittee
www.g7welcomingcomittee/
propagandhi.com

Geoff Moysa
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT STAFF

Canada's darlings of fast, political, pissed-off punk rock are back after a long hiatus, and for the most part, the wait was worth it. *Today's Empires, Tomorrow's Ashes* marks Propagandhi's first new album in almost five years. Rather than mellowing with age, however, the Winnipeg trio somehow got faster, angrier and more socially conscious, and in the process have written what may be one of the best albums of the year.

Singer/guitarist Chris Hannah's songwriting and vocal delivery are biting and satirical as ever, with clever lyrical barbs shot at everything from western arrogance and stagnant pop-culture to political corruption and gender inequality.

Musically, Propagandhi is at the top of their form with razor-sharp, metal-tinged shredders like "Back To The Motor League," "Albright Monument Baghdad" and "Purina Hall of Fame."

Where the band stumbles is on the more frantic hardcore tracks such as "Fuck The Border" and "Ordinary People Do Fucked Up Things," where new bassist Todd takes over vocal duties with an incomprehensible screaming that doesn't entirely work with the rest of this album. Fortunately, these moments are few and far between, and the final product is a CD that tramples all over most of the meaningless generic punk out there.

QUAECUMQUE VERA

Reality Bites

Cheating is a serious academic offence, students found guilty of it usually receive a grade of 1F and a suspension.

Learn more about cheating and its consequences in the Code of Student Behaviour - Section 26 of the University Calendar.

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If you have a new mailing address, please ensure that you inform our office no later than February 13.

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- in person (Student Access Centre, main floor of the Administration Building); or
- in writing and must include your name, signature, and student ID. Faxes are acceptable. Telephone requests and E-mail will not be accepted.

Note: In compliance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIPP), forms cannot be issued at the request of third parties, including parents or tax accountants.

Office of the Registrar and Student Awards
Administration Building



George Harrison
All Things Must Pass
Parlophone/EMI
www.allthingsmustpass.com

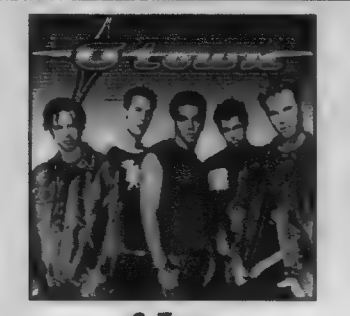
James Rossiter
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT STAFF

When The Beatles called it quits in early 1970, "The Quiet One" had only just began to fully mature as a songwriter. His last two efforts with The Beatles, "Here Comes The Sun" and "Something" are regarded by many to be among the band's best.

And yet Harrison's solo work has remained mysteriously overlooked. One could perhaps criticize him for making this, his 1970 solo debut, a *triple* vinyl set. But it still managed to be the first number one album by a solo Beatle, and it contained the first solo number-one single, "My Sweet Lord."

And so, 30 years (and a bit) down the road, we see the two-CD *All Things Must Pass* finally get a good digitally remastered makeover. This boxed release sees the previously available (and shoddily put together) CD dramatically improved upon, with five bonus tracks and a comprehensive booklet.

But what makes this package so worthwhile is the music contained within. Other than the five-song instrumental jam that concludes CD two, *All Things Must Pass* is a solid and consistent piece of work, far better than *any* album Paul McCartney ever released. Tracks like the aforementioned single and "Isn't It A Pity" show Harrison at his musical peak. And when supported by such artists as Ringo Starr, Eric Clapton, and Dave Mason (of Pink Floyd), as well as a myriad of other top-notch musicians, one can only wonder why he has remained so under-appreciated.



O-Town
O-Town
J Records
www.o-town.com

Vanessa McLeod
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT STAFF

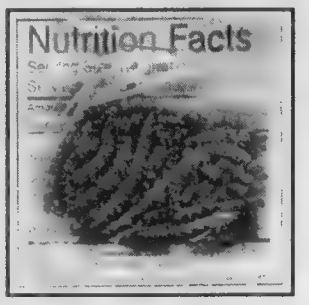
"You are not a star, you're a lab rat." These words, spoken by one of the crewmembers involved in the manufacturing of the latest boy-band, couldn't ring more true.

The arrival of O-Town into pop "stardom" proves that you no longer need to have natural talent to make it in this over-saturated market. The few people who witnessed the creation of this band on the dismal ABC show *Making The Band* observed first-hand how these guys frequently struggle to hit notes, stay on-key or dance with the beat—three criteria most would assume to be key requirements for those pursing a singing career.

Alas, after much intense training and fine polishing by industry insiders—including Lou Pearlman, the man to blame for bringing the world Backstreet Boys and *NSYNC, O-Town has released their self-titled debut, which, surprisingly enough, meets the current pop standards. Filled with bouncing pop beats and candy-apple lyrics like "like Hagan Daz you make me smile" this CD is sure to fill many pre-adolescent girls' fantasies about love and romance.

Undoubtedly, O-Town will be providing *NSYNC and Backstreet Boys with some competition, giving North American teens more choices of what to buy with their babysitting money.

CULTURA OBSCURA



Larvets

Dave Alexander
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Larvets: The Original Worm Snax put the meal in mealworm with their cheddar-cheese flavored treats. How sick of Doritos do you have to be before you get the urge to chow down on larva?

"BBQ, Cheddar Cheese, and Mexican Spice Larvets make great party food!" proclaims the package, leading one to believe that there is way too big a market for this item. Not to mention that they're the "original worm snax"—suggesting there is competition.

Eating bugs isn't really so disturbing. I just don't want to buy them from a company called Hotlix. I imagine some porn king finding a way to get rid of the insect problem in his office while making a few extra "bux."

SITE UNSEEN



www.512productions.com/lobstermagnet/

Geoff Moysa
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT STAFF

When I first saw this bizarre Flash production, I was merely confused and bewildered. Upon subsequent viewings, the confusion remained, but I also became at once amused and incredibly frightened.

Witness an animated video for an incredibly strange song about the relationship between a lobster and a magnet, which for some reason manages to incorporate the sinking of the Titanic.

Either this is some kind of new high-brow "art" that I am not hip enough to comprehend, or I have been doing all the wrong drugs. Whatever the case, if you're feeling bad about your useless arts degree, just go to this site and remind yourself that somewhere, somehow, there are people out there playing bad metal and screaming "LOBSTER STICKS TO MAGNET!!"

Thereafter, attempt to ignore a) your poverty, and b) the zombies.

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Sports in Brief

Bears hockey

The Bears hockey squad hosted the Regina Cougars at the Clare Drake last Friday and Saturday. The Bears won both nights by 6-1 counts. Kris Knoblauch, Jeff Zorn, Massimo Provenzano and Kevin Marsh each scored two goals on the series.

Pandas basketball

The Pandas basketball team hosted the top-ranked Manitoba Bisons last weekend. The Pandas mounted a stunning upset victory on Friday, defeating Manitoba 62-55. The ninth-placed Pandas were defeated on Saturday. Cathy Butlin scored 15 points in the upset game.

Bears basketball

The Bears basketball team also hosted the Bisons last weekend, but pounced the visitors two straight. Nick Maglisceau led the way for the Bears, scoring 35 on the series.

Pandas volleyball

The Pandas volleyball team was in Winnipeg to play the fourth-ranked Manitoba Bisons. They were shut out 0-3 on Friday before falling 3-1 on Saturday. Stephanie Nychka led her team to a losing cause with 13 digs, seven kills on Friday and 26 kills on Saturday.

Bears volleyball

The Bears volleyball team also fell to Winnipeg last weekend in consecutive 1-3 losses. Scott Emslie had 24 kills on the weekend.

Bears wrestling

The Bears wrestling team was in Winnipeg for the Bison Invitational, where they beat Manitoba with a team score of 25 to 16.

Bears and Pandas track & field

Alberta's track teams were in Saskatoon for the Sled Dog Open last weekend, finishing with an impressive 17 top-three finishes. The Bears are ranked fifth in the country while the Pandas are ranked tenth.

Sports quote for the day

"The winners in life think constantly in terms of I can, I will, and I am. Losers, on the other hand, concentrate their waking thoughts on what they should have or would have done, or what they can't do."

— Dennis Waitley

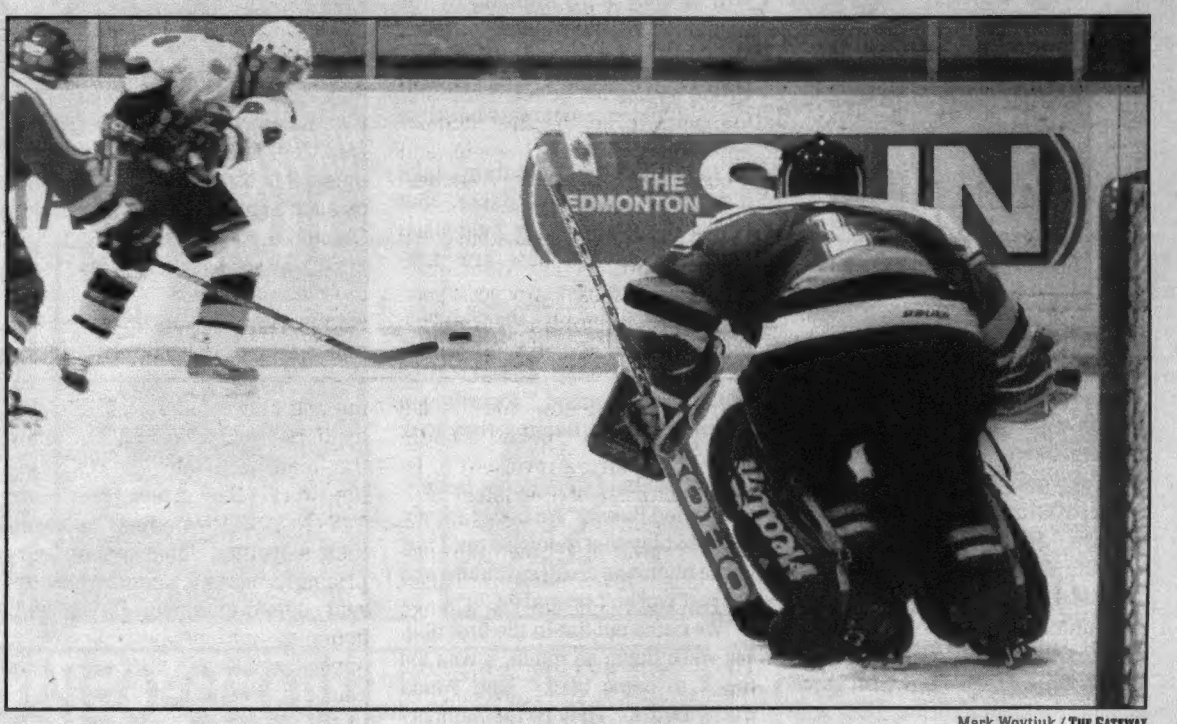
Sports trivia

The highest vertical dunk was accomplished by the Harlem Globetrotters' Sean Williams and Michael Wilson. They dunked at a record rim height of 11 feet 8 inches at Disney-MGM Studios in Orlando on 16 September, 1996.

Bears mount back-to-back 6-1 victories

U of A Golden Bears
vs
Regina Cougars
6—1 COUGARS
U of A Golden Bears
vs
Regina Cougars
6—1 COUGARS

Barrie Tanner
SPORTS EDITOR



Mark Woytiuk / THE GATEWAY

Though the Bears were held scoreless in the first period of both games, they scored twelve over the series.

The Golden Bears hockey team clinched first place in the conference combined standings with back-to-back home victories over the Regina Cougars before over a thousand fans at the Clare Drake last weekend.

The wins ensure the Bears will have home-ice advantage throughout the playoffs.

Friday's first period showed a challenged Bears hockey team looking slower than usual, and only the performance of pipe-master Clayton Pool saved the home team from being punished on the scoreboard. He would go on to save 35 of 36 shots against him.

The Bears managed to get on the board first with a goal by Canada West scoring leader Russ Hewson, who became the sixth player in conference history to score 100 career goals.

The Bears would go on to score five more goals, interrupted only by Nathan Strueby's breakaway goal for Regina on an intercepted pass as the second period drew to a close.

"[Regina] had lots of chances to get a jump on us in the first [period]," said Kris Knoblauch, who scored two of the Bears' six goals on Friday. "Luckily Clayton Pool was really solid in net and allowed us to get on the board first."

The Bears stepped onto the ice on Saturday a different team, though the final score remained 6-1. The Bears seemed to dominate throughout the second game, setting the pace and carrying the play through most of the period.

"Saturday night was the first time we really came out for sixty minutes of hockey since Christmas," explained Knoblauch.

The top-ranked Bears seemed to have overcome what would have been their biggest challenge last weekend: underestimating their opponent.

"Our biggest test was not taking Regina for granted," said Kevin Marsh, who scored on both nights. "We concentrated on staying focused on our game and playing the full sixty minutes."

"We did get some breaks, especially on Friday," continued Marsh. "If you keep the pressure on and work hard, you deserve the breaks. That's the way hockey is."

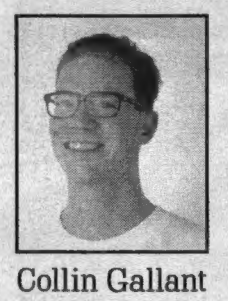
ATHLETE OF THE WEEK



Keith Wood / THE GATEWAY

Name: Jeff Zorn
Sport: Ice hockey
Year: One
Position: Defenseman
Hero: Ray Bourque
Favourite Food: Steak
Favourite Movie: *Gladiator*
Favourite Band: Metallica
Most used phrase: "No doubt about it."
Hobby: Golf

XFL promises thrills and tricks that don't deliver



Collin Gallant

Football is the perfect metaphor for capitalism: violence interspersed with meetings. That saying was never so true as when the world's most smash-mouth marketing team hit the airwaves Saturday night.

The XFL league is all about tough-guy football. I define tough-guy football as "third-rate-or-worse players pit-fighting while a sleek marketing empire looks at test audience results and paints the event as the next best thing to watching *Gladiator* on the wide-screen."

Establishing the league as a legitimate sporting event, never mind a good one, was the first order of business. Seven separate mentions of betting or the Vegas line escaped the lips of the broadcast team, none of whom were connected in any way to football. Sports betting adds a touch of legitimacy to the "I can't believe it's not rigged" upstart league.

You can place bets on games, but why would you? There are too many intangibles, unknown players and suspect referees. Game stoppages for cutaways to drunken fans "whoo"-ing their way through interviews ... not my money, but thanks anyway.

The only sure bet is that the league will never have a players' union. Why won't the players have a union? For the same reason they're not in the NFL, despite being so extreme. They were all so desperate to stop working as bouncers and construction workers that they chomped at the bit to enter the league (including not being paid since training camp began in November). The McMahon machine spins it like desire, but whatever you call it, it's the reason he's stayed a billionaire.

In the interests of saving the owners—excuse me, the owner—of every single team some money, the XFL cleaned up on college attitude problems and NFL-Europe holdouts. But if we wanted to see that, wouldn't we all be going to local tough-guy competitions or wearing Barcelona Dragons paraphernalia?

Admittedly, it is weird listening to a state governor talk about how the league is packed with NCAA Div II all-stars or how a particular quarterback owns "every passing record at the University of Northern Colorado," then argue that the NFL is full of sissies.

Mind you, this is a young league. I'm sure the kinks will be ironed out in week two. The ironing out process should include scrapping half the TV tricks.

The X-cam worked very well (ditto on-field microphones), but the journey into the secret world of locker rooms went bust. Watching defensive coordinators talk in X and O code about positional breakdowns gets tiring really quick.

Even if the TV tricks had worked, they wouldn't have made up for that first chain measurement or the injury time-out caused by a fat guy getting foot cramps.

Football is a basically a boring game. How exciting can you make a 23-yard field goal? Even if Jesse "the Ultimate Tactician" Ventura is screaming "Gamble Gamble?"

The cheerleaders were big breasted and slutty, but hardly to the level we were led to believe.

Even the on-field interviews went up in smoke as it became obvious that most tired guys don't give good quotes. Most simply hung their asses out or got real tough and said hi to mom or their wife ("you complete me"?!?).

One coach even refused to be interviewed. Using his assistant coaches in flying wedge formation, they blocked the cameraman, allowing the head coach to plan out a last-minute drive.

I smell a hardcore memo in his future. It will have more to do with market strategy and image consultation and less to do with actual quality football. Kinda like the XFL.

Pandas upset first-placed Bisons, split series

U of A Pandas
vs
Manitoba Bisons
62—55

U of A Pandas
vs
Manitoba Bisons
53—72

Clive Kriekenbeek
SPORTS STAFF

The split series against Manitoba last weekend mirrored the week before against SFU as the first-placed Bisons took a single game from the ninth-ranked Pandas.

As Nationals approach, the Pandas are preparing for the Canada West playoffs, and there is no better preparation than playing the country's best women's basketball team.

The Pandas won the first game of last weekend's series. They surprised the visiting team and fans with an aggressive offence that caught the Bisons off-guard and led to a 62-55 home-team victory.

"We're ready to play tough teams," claimed Pandas head coach Trix Baker after Friday night's victory. "We're getting ready to play at the Nationals and whether we win or lose, playing tough teams is a good experience."

Saturday night, the Pandas gained the experience, but not the win as they were dumped by the Bisons, who were back in form for the 72-53 thrashing. The signs were evident when a dazed Pandas basketball team went into halftime trailing 24-48.

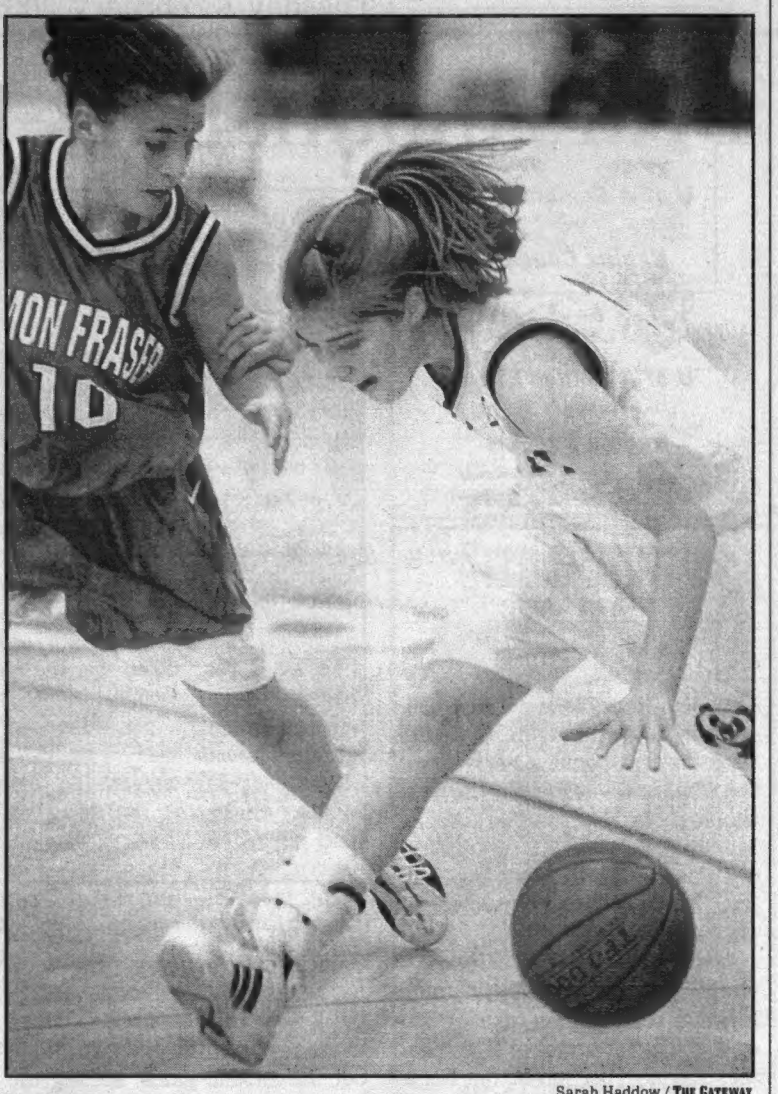
"In the first half, we didn't take it to them," admitted Baker. "But in the second half, we held them scoreless for the first five minutes."

Unfortunately for the Pandas, the hole they had dug in the first half was too deep and the they were "shell-shocked," according to Baker, from the beating they took in the first half.

"[Manitoba] played way better," continued Baker. "We didn't expect them to play this much better. They came out firing on all cylinders and we just weren't prepared."

"We came out flat in the first half. We were down so much, it was too tough to come back," said Panda Cathy Butlin. "They're the number-one team for a reason, but it would have been nice to beat them twice."

According to Butlin, beating the number-one team proves the Pandas can compete with any team in the league and that fact is a great source of confidence as the regular season schedule winds down.



Sarah Haddow / THE GATEWAY
Beating a number-one team proves the Pandas can compete with any team.

Butlin, Haig honored at last home game

Clive Kriekenbeek
SPORTS STAFF

Graduating Pandas basketballers Robyn Haig and Cathy Butlin were honoured with a presentation at the last home game of the Conference regular season last weekend when the Pandas took on the number-one ranked Manitoba Bisons in the Main Gym.

Both were presented with five roses commemorating each year with the team.

Haig, noted for her sense of humour and a peculiar interest in blocked-shot stats, has been a stabilizing force with her ability to communicate on the court. The 5'10" forward is from Airdrie, AB, and is studying Physical Education.

Butlin, as the team's captain, has led with her scoring and uplifting spirit. She led the team in scoring at the National Championships last March and was named CIAU Tournament All-Star.

Butlin graduated in December with a degree in Education and is excited to pursue a role as a teacher.

"It'll be a good change, but I'll miss all my teammates and my friends," said Butlin.

Bear basketball team downs Manitoba Bisons two straight

U of A Golden Bears
vs
U of M Bisons
91—52

U of A Golden Bears
vs
U of M Bisons
90—69

Ashley Carr
SPORTS STAFF

The number-seven ranked Golden Bears basketball team hosted the unranked Manitoba Bisons on Friday and Saturday nights. Capacity crowds turned out on both nights to cheer on the Bears in their last regular-season home game before playoffs.

Friday night's game featured both offensive and defensive domination by the Bears. The Bears demonstrated skilled, quick three-way passing which they often converted on.

They also capitalized on Bison missed opportunities and turnovers, converting on foul shots.

The Bisons were unable to close the gap at any point in the game and were dealt a 91-52 loss. Nick Maglisceau, the Bears' graduating post, was named player of the game with 17 points, five rebounds and two blocks.

Saturday's game was similar to Friday's in the Bisons' inability to catch up to the Bears. In the dying minutes, the Bears scored three successive three-pointers. Graduating forward Max Darrah, later named player of the game, netted a slam dunk.

Saturday's game featured a pre-game ceremony honoring the contributions of five graduating players to the Bears basketball program: Nick Maglisceau, Chris Horwood, Max Darrah, Clayton Pottinger and Alex Michalas.

The Bears head to Victoria next weekend to conclude the regular season with two games against the Vikes.



Allison Crysler / THE GATEWAY
Bears forward Reuben Hall used his 6'8" in this lay-up last weekend when Alberta swept Manitoba in two .

Join Us After The Game!
And Celebrate Another Panda's/Bear's Victory With
Thursday DJMQ, Friday DJ SLH, Satuday DJ SYDEWAZE
ROOM AT ᒋᐃᐧᐣ THE TOP
STUDENTS UNION

Cigarro & Cerveja by Toné Ésteves



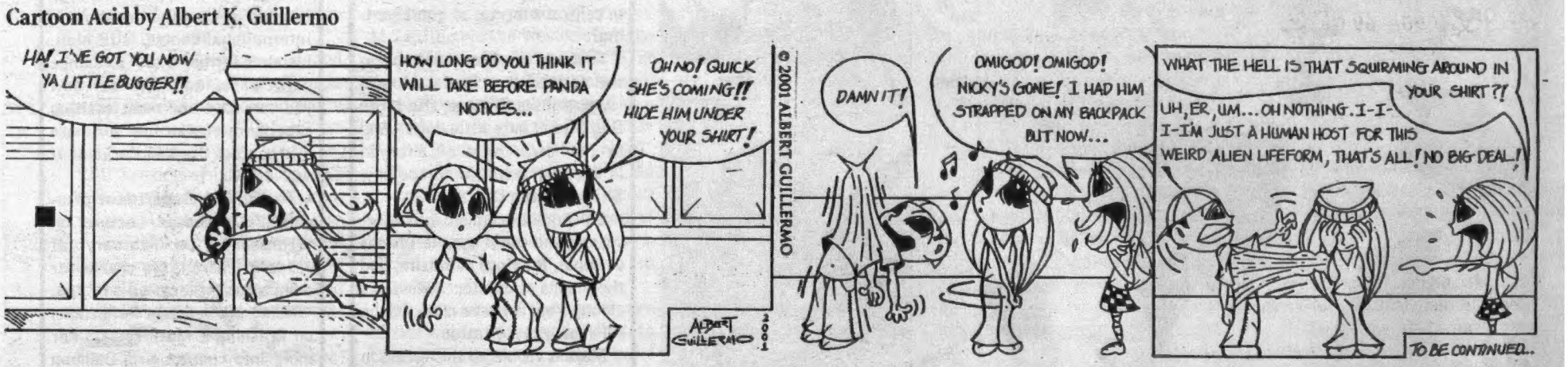
Brothers Namedrop by Death Warrior Winters



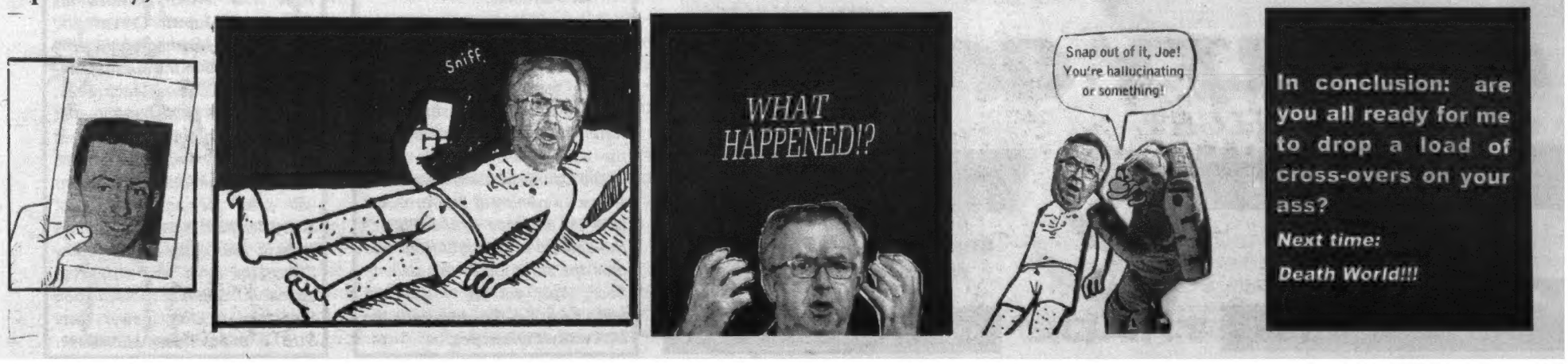
Varsity Happenings by Bill "Ribs Mocco" Benson



Cartoon Acid by Albert K. Guillermo



Paperknots by Junbar



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Boston Pizza Argyll Crossing now hiring, F/T, P/T all positions. Please drop off resumes at 7641 Argyll Road between 1:00 and 4:00pm Monday through Saturday.

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Starting January 2001: After school care for two children, aged 8 and 11, 3:30pm to 6:00pm. Extra hours available. Full time care in July and August (vacation time available). A vehicle is required. We're looking for a fun loving, outgoing, caring responsible person. $8 per hour. Phone Sherryl at 489-0671.

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Olsen Ventures Reforestation is seeking Experience Treeplanters for the 2001 season. Anticipating a 60 Day season. Applications at CaPs, interviews on 15 February.

Personals

EDMONTON'S COOLEST PARTY LINE DIAL: 44-PARTY Ads Jokes Stories & More! 18+ FREE CALL 24hrs.

Three Lines For A Toonie ($1 of which goes to the Food Bank)

Pandas hockey #3 - You Rock! Stellar play last weekend!! Coffee sometime? -- UCJC

ruff weekend, huh? hope "MY LI'L BUDDY" is going to feel better soon -winters

Thanks Avenue Pizza folk!

Education Students

Need extra credit? Short one course?

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ASTRONOWATCH

Hello all you **astro-buoys** and **gulls**. I'm sure you remember my 200-word **tirade** on the absence of any **meteors** during the 2000 Leonid "**shower.**"

Well, I've missed something else. Apparently the **lucky people** who were at the observatory on the twenty-fifth saw the huge fireball that **blazed** across the night sky at about 7:20pm. The **meteorite** should be somewhere in central Alberta, so **good hunting.**

Tonight, the Moon will be in the eastern sky. To the Moon's lower right is **Procyon**, the **Little Dog Star** (I hate little **dogs**), and to the lower right of Procyon is the brightest star in the sky, **Sirius**, the **Big Dog Star.**

On Thursday come to the observatory, and you'll see the phases of **Venus**, the rings of **Saturn**, and the moons of **Jupiter.** Unless it's cloudy. And if you're nice, maybe I'll show you my **tattoo.**

Mars is visible all this week, in the south before dawn. It rises at about 1:30am, and it **reddish.**

That's all folks.

No silly, it's not astrology; it's astronomy. AstronoWatch is a weekly feature published every Tuesday. Our resident astronomer, Kati Kovacs, sets the stage for the cosmos and invites you up to the Campus Observatory every Thursday evening at 8:00pm. Just take the elevator in the Physics Building up to the sixth floor and then the stairs up to the seventh floor. Walk out on to the roof and check out the view with the University's telescopes.

HAPPY BOB KNOWS

The Department of English presents a reading by poet/fiction writer Anne Simpson on Tuesday, 6 Februrary at 2:00pm. There is no charge for admission. The location is HC 4-29. for more info contact Julie Rak at 492-4148.

The International Centre presents Study Abroad Odysseys. Studying in Japan and Korea on Wednesday, 7 February at 1:00pm. There is no charge for admission. The location is International Centre, HUB Mall (sidewalk level, stairwell 9101). Listen to former U of A exchange participants and find out how you can have the most exciting experience of your life! For more info contact Carmen Carvajal at 492-0089.

The International Centre presents Study Abroad Odysseys – Studying in Africa and Latin America on Friday, 9 February at 12:00pm. There is no charge for admission. The location is International Centre, HUB Mall. Listen to former U of A exchange participants and find out how you can have the most exciting experience of your life! for more info contact Carmen Carvajal at 492-0089.

The English Department presents 2001 Salter Lecture on Wednesday, 14 February at 3:30pm. There is No charge for admission. The location is HC L-3. "Riding and Reading: Reflections on Crashing a Motorcycle." For more info contact Kris Calhoun at 492-7839.

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